## **IN THE CLAIMS**:

Please amend claims 1 and 3-5 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A balance management system for managing balances occurring in <u>each of a plurality of processes</u>, <u>the system comprising</u>:

information acquiring means for acquiring, for a process, first information on a process item and a balance amount associated with the process item, wherein the first information is acquired from a first terminal corresponding to the process;

information management means for managing, <u>for the process</u>, <u>second</u> information on a balance of a balance item and <u>third</u> information on a correspondence <u>between for each process that a said</u> balance of <u>which said</u> balance item <u>reflects and the a balance</u> amount of <u>which said</u> process item;

information acquiring means for acquiring information on a process-item and a balance amount corresponding to the process item, from a first terminal corresponding to each process;

information updating means for updating the <u>second</u> information on the balance of the balance item—corresponding to the process item, on the basis of the <u>third</u> information on the correspondence—managed by the information management means and the <u>first</u> information on the process item and the balance amount—acquired by the information acquiring means;

information providing means for providing a second terminal with the <u>second</u> information on the balance item and the balance for <u>corresponding to</u> one or more processes managed by the information management means; and

first means for enabling <u>a flexible</u> setting of the <u>third</u> information <del>on the</del> <del>correspondence</del> according to a user's <u>intention input</u>.

## 2. (Canceled)

- 3. (Currently Amended) The balance management system according to claim 1, wherein the first means provides a program for giving a setting operation function of the information on the correspondence to to a third terminal for enabling the setting of the third information according to the user's input at a the third terminal.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The balance management system according to claim 1, further comprising second means comprising for enabling a selection of a configuration means for configuring a display pattern-of the second information on the balance of the balance item according to the user's intention-input and a display means for displaying the configured display of the second information according to the selected pattern.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The balance management system according to claim 4, wherein the second means provides a program to the second terminal for configuring a display of the second information on the balance of the balance item according to the

user's input at the second terminal for giving the second terminal a selecting operation function of a display pattern of the information on the balance of the balance item and a display function of the information on the balance of the balance item according to the selected pattern through the selecting operation.